

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 2nd December 2022

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

There is simply no better place to be at the moment than at Kendrick if you want to enjoy and share some Christmas cheer. Leading the way, as always, is the library and our hugely creative and imaginative Librarians have decorated the library with so many fun and clever ideas to celebrate the season. From thoughtful acts of kindness to fun jokes and photos of your pets, there is no end of activity and fun for students and staff to enjoy. Please have a look at what is going on [here](#).

Elsewhere, two Christmas trees have been put up and decorated; one in Reception and the other near the Cover Office. These are trees that have been donated to us. Activities this week have also been fun with the **Kendrick Student Leaders** organising and running **Fringe Week**, a report will follow in due course, but it all culminates today with the long-awaited lip sync battle between teams of staff and students, no doubt the highlight of the week, if not the year! On the more serious side, we are making Christmas boxes for children and young adults to be distributed to the Ukraine Centre on Sidmouth Street and on Monday we will start a food drive where we have asked students and staff to bring in store cupboard essentials which we will give to the Whitley Community Food Cupboard. We must remember that this time of the year is not fun for everyone, and I have asked Mr Hodge to once again record an assembly to be shown to all students about the meaning of Christmas and this season which everyone can be part of.

Today we welcome former students and staff to school to celebrate our **145th Birthday**. Year 8 students will give our visitors a tour of the school and then we will assemble in the Hall for a talk from me, the KSL and hear some beautiful music from some 6th Form students. There will also be the obligatory singing of the school song! To celebrate the occasion, I asked a Year 13 student, Daisy to make a cake which is truly magnificent and, as one would expect, features the iconic image of the front of our school, including the recently installed stain glass window in Palmer Library. I know our guests will range from students that were here in the 1950s to those who left more recently. We have a few former students who are teachers at Kendrick, working alongside the teachers that taught them; how wonderful is that!

Events continue with the KPS organised **Kendrick Celebrates – 145th Birthday** event on Saturday in the school Hall, when again another cake will be cut but also stalls of goods, food and displays will be available for people to enjoy. There will be performances from our students that will add colour and joy to the event. We will also be selling Kendrick memorabilia and there will be a raffle and some great prizes, including the recent whole school photo that was taken last term to mark this milestone in our history; 145 proud years of girls' education. KPS is aiming to raise enough money to buy gifts of up to £250 per department, £5000 altogether, which of course, will benefit all the students in the school. If you haven't been able to donate or take part in recent events, here is your opportunity to donate [here](#).

Education is our business, and we are proud of what we do at Kendrick, so it is very encouraging when we receive congratulations from others. This week I received a letter from the **Rt Honourable Nick Gibb, Minister of State for Schools** who congratulated us on being one of the top schools in the country since 98% of our students entered at least one Modern Foreign Language GCSE this summer. This is nothing new for Kendrick and we are proud of the broad and balanced curriculum we offer, which also boasts similar statistics in the Humanities and Science, plus larger than average numbers in the creative and practical subjects. Nevertheless, it is very pleasing to receive such an acknowledgement, please read the letter [here](#).

This coincided with the great pleasure we had this week at the GCSE Presentation event when we congratulated and presented certificates to our GCSE students of 2022 and in the presence of their parents. A former student, Sanjana, was the Guest of Honour and gave a most inspiring speech to the students asking them the question 'What do you want to do with your life?' Sanjana offered some wise thoughts about how they should see themselves and emphatically told them they are not to define themselves by their grades. Sanjana ended her speech by saying: *Two years from now you will have completed that 1/9th of your life and said goodbye to the people currently sat around you as you all spread your wings, ready to take on your unique adventures, and go into the world leading, inspiring and making a difference. And you will be one step closer to learning who you want to be, but I already know that will be someone incredible.* Some photos of the occasion and Sanjana's speech in full can be found [here](#).

With such thoughts in mind, I wish everyone a good weekend and I look forward to seeing some of you at the Kendrick Celebrates event tomorrow evening.

Please read further useful information our Weekly Update.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi, Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING/WELLBEING

WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

If you have a concern about a child at Kendrick School, please email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk or telephone 0118 9015859.

If you're worried about any child or young person and you are contacting us out of hours (before 8am and after 4pm and at weekends and holidays), you can contact the NSPCC helpline for support and advice for free - call us on **0800 800 5000** or **contact NSPCC online**. Children can contact **Childline** any time to get support themselves. **In an emergency please call 999 or for a non-emergency call 101.**

We have created a library of resources for parents, carers and students including support avenues which you can find on our website via this [link](#). We will be adding to these on a regular basis.

[CAMHS Resources](#) - This site was created for young people, carers and professionals to pool together lots of helpful resources from across the internet that are available to help support your mental health and well-being.

For well-being support in school please visit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

SAFEGUARDING – STUDENTS LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Students in Years 7-11 must be collected from school by a responsible adult for appointments that take place during the school day. This policy is to ensure the safety of our students. This week one of our Sixth Form students was approached by a man on her way home during the school day. This has been reported to the police and is not the first incident of its kind.

The area surrounding Kendrick School is, unfortunately, prone to drug dealing, particularly at the bottom of East Street, near the IDR. Last week in this update we gave you information on County Lines, drug dealing where organised criminal groups (OCGs) use phone lines to move and supply drugs, usually from cities into smaller towns and rural area. These gangs target school children and, a child on their own during the school day, is vulnerable to being approached.

For a BBC news article today on County Lines please click [here](#).

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING – ACTION FOR HAPPINESS – ‘DO GOOD DECEMBER’

Source: [Action for Happiness](#)

This month, Action for Happiness, is encouraging you to carry out small acts of kindness.

December Kindness 2022

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely	 6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find	 7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today	1 Spread kindness and share the December calendar with others	2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are	3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment	4 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about
12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today	13 See how many different people you can smile at today	14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one	8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member	9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead	10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them	11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank
19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated	20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need	21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you	15 Contact an elderly neighbour and brighten up their day	16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to	17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you	18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving
26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature	27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat	28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy	22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed	23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness	24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh	25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!
			29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people	30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why	31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2023	

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS Happier · Kinder · Together



Our Library has a wonderful advent calendar with an ‘Act of Kindness’ for each day which students are being asked to carry out on the lead up to Christmas.

1st December: Make someone laugh

2nd December: Compliment a friend

3rd December – Message a friend to see how they are doing



CALENDAR FOR TERM 2, 2022-23

Monday 5th December
Thursday 8th December

Food Drive Week (see article below)
Full Governing Body (FGB) Meeting, 4.30pm
Winter Concert, 6.30pm (see article below)

Friday 9th December	Christmas Jumper Day (or hat or socks!) to raise money for Daisy's Dream (see article below)
Monday 12th December	Opera Trip for KS4 and 5
Friday 16th December	End of Term 2, 1.05pm
Tuesday 3rd January	Inset Day
Wednesday 4th January	Start of Term 3, 8.25am

The school calendar for the academic year can be found [here](#). For the Term Dates for 2022-23 and 2023-24 please click [here](#)

NEWS, NOTICES AND EVENTS

KENDRICK SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT 2022

Our Winter Concert will feature a range of songs from Vox Choir, Senior Choir and Chamber Choir, with instrumental music from Chopin, Shostakovich and a wide selection of pieces. All of the school's main ensembles will perform, including all of Year 7 singing and Sinfonia who will play their festive piece. We expect the concert to finish at approximately 8.45pm.

Unfortunately, the harp ensemble will not be able to perform on the night, but they wanted to share their music with you. Please follow this link to see a performance of *Sans Day Carol*, which has been arranged by Helen Barley: [Harp Ensemble](#)

Please ensure that students are picked up by an adult at the end of the concert, so no one goes home on their own.

Refreshments, provided by KPS, including mince pies will be available in the servery before the concert from 6.00pm.

Please may we remind you that no parking is available on the school site unless you have a disability. If this is the case, then please contact the school via admin@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

Our Winter Concert tends to sell out quickly and tickets will be going on sale from 28th November. We therefore urge you to order them as soon as possible through ParentPay in order to avoid disappointment. Ticket price suggested donation: £5.00. In the first instance, tickets will be restricted to five per family. We politely ask for you not to leave ticket requests or queries until the day of the concert.

If you would like tickets for the Winter Concert on Thursday 8th December, please complete the order on ParentPay. Your ParentPay receipt will be your ticket, so please bring your mobile or a printed copy as proof of purchase.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the concert.

FOOD DRIVE FOR THE WHITLEY COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD – 5th-9th DECEMBER

As we are all aware, this winter is going to be a difficult one for many families across the country, especially with the rising cost of living.

To do our bit to help locally in the Reading area, the Kendrick Student Leaders (KSL) are going to be collecting food items for the **Whitley Community Food Cupboard** during the week of **5th December**, in the Sixth Form building under the stairs next to the library.

The items below are specifically in need:

Breakfast cereals, bread such as part baked or croissants will long life dates in packets, UHT milk, eggs, loo rolls, washing up liquid, washing powder, tea, coffee, treat snacks- crisps/biscuits/dried fruit, cooking oil, pasta/rice, tins such as sweetcorn/fruit/soup/tuna, spreads like honey and jam, sweetcorn, toiletries such as shower gel, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothbrushes.

In these difficult times, local people experiencing poverty will really appreciate your donations. Thank you in advance for your support.

CHRISTMAS 'JUMPER' DAY – FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER

On Friday 9th December we will be doing a 'Christmas Clothing Day'. On this day, students can brighten up their uniform by wearing a Christmas Jumper, or accessorise with a festive hat or socks. We will be raising money for Daisy's Dream, a charity which supports children and their families who have been affected by the life-threatening illness or bereavement of someone close to them. Suggested donations are £2, which can be made through ParentPay.

KENDRICK SCHOOL – 2024 ADMISSION POLICIES – CONSULTATION

Kendrick School has made some changes to its admission policies for 2024 entry and, in line with admission guidelines, are now consulting on these policies.

The key changes can be found on our [website](#).

The consultation must last for a minimum of 6 weeks and will commence on **Monday 7th November 2022**. All comments regarding the proposed changes or any aspect of the Admissions Policies, should be sent to admissions@kendrick.reading.sch.uk or by completing the online form via this [link](#) by **9am on Tuesday 3rd January 2023**.

The full policies with all changes highlighted in yellow can be accessed from our website via this [link](#).

In addition, Kendrick School will be using GL Assessment as the test provider for 2024 entry. This is for information purposes only, and not part of the consultation process.

CHRISTMAS HAF REGISTRATION OPEN

Parents of children eligible for pupil premium free school meal can now register for the Christmas Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) scheme. Providers taking part in the programme include Reading Rock Academy, Next Thing Education and Sport in Mind.

BFFC co-ordinates the HAF scheme on behalf of Reading Borough Council, with funding from the DfE. Registration is open via the BFFC website at: <https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/schools/haf/>

CHRISTMAS TREE DONATION

Our lovely Christmas tree in Reception was kindly donated by Caversham Bridge Garden Centre.

The second Christmas tree which is outside main school and the Cover Office has been donated by Bruce Glasby, the school's contracted electrician.



Caversham Bridge
GARDEN CENTRE
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7 DAYS
A WEEK

10% DISCOUNT

Choose from our Top Quality, Classic, Non-drop Nordmans or our beautiful Fraser Firs. Have your chosen tree netted, carried to your car or delivered to your door. Hand made wreaths, seasonal plants and gifts also available.

Merry Christmas

DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE

Email: cbgcltd@hotmail.com 0118 957 1234
www.cavershambridgegardencentre.com

VACANCIES

We have the following vacancies at Kendrick School. Please click on the links for more information on the roles and how to apply and please share with friends and family.

[Head of Music and Drama](#) to cover a maternity leave – at least 0.8FTE. Job share will be considered. For end of February 2023 to at least December 2023. Closing date for applications Thursday 15th December 2022.

[Exam Invigilators](#) – for December 2022 and onwards

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items which are due for payment, please login to your ParentPay accounts for details.

Year 7, 8 and 9 Food and technology contributions
Year 10 and 11 Art and Textiles contributions
Year 7 Study Skills Workshop – 17th November 2022
2022 Biology Week: Design a Biology Tote Bag
Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award
Year 10 and 11 GCSE Music Anthologies book purchase
Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE English set texts
Year 12 and Year 13 A-Level English set texts

October trips

Year 12 Wokingham Waterside Centre trip 4th October 2022.
Year 10 MFL French and German trips 9th to 14th October 2022
Year 13 A Level Geography Residential Field Course 12th to 16th October 2022
Year 12 Biology Brain Afternoon 20th October 2022

December trips

Year 11 12 13 Christmas Market trip to Germany 1st to 4th December 2022

2023 trips

Year 12 A level Biology Dale Fort residential trip.

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

KENDRICK CELEBRATES!

I would like to mention the celebration event that KPS is organising for all families on **Saturday 3rd December** between 5-8.30pm. The occasion is to celebrate Kendrick's 145th birthday and raise **funds to provide for the wish list given by each department** - the wish lists comprises of subject text books for each department, Gold subscription for UCAS Progression report, books for library, whiteboards, gelli printing plates for textile department, MDF for architect drawers for Art department, school trip for music department, big TESLA bulb for Chemistry department, and much more... KPS has sight of that list and if you want to know what's in it please email KPS.

Thanks to all the parents and students who have already reached out to help with volunteering and performing on the day. There are still spaces left for stalls and KPS will also appreciate any form of donation and sponsorship for this event. Please look at the poster for more information and bring your family and friends to the event [HERE](#).

Regards

Shikha Pathak, Vice-Chair, Kendrick Parents' Society